SPA 385 / LAS 386
Havana: A Cultural History
(LA) na, npdf
Enrollment by application or interview. Departmental permission required.
Total Course Enrollment: 15

Professor(s): Rubén Gallo

Description/Objective:
This course will offer a cultural history of how Havana evolved from a sleepy colonial city in 1900 to rising as one of the cultural and architectural capitals of Latin America and the world by the 1950s. We will study the urban development of the early 20th century, the adoption of modernism and International Style in architecture, and the tensions between private enterprise and public projects.

Sample Reading List:
Eduardo Luis Rodríguez
Havana: An Architectural Guide
Pedro Martínez Inclán
La Habana Actual
Rubén Gallo
Una pequeña ciudad mexicana en La Habana
John Loomis
Cuba's Forgotten Art Schools
Terence Gower
Havana Case Study
Jane C. Loeffler
The Architecture of Diplomacy

Reading/Writing Assignments:
Students will be asked to spend the semester researching one specific site in Havana (for instance: the Malecón, the city's sea-side drive; or Parque Lenin, a socialist-themed Central Park) in order to produce a final research paper.

Requirements/Grading:
Paper In Lieu Of Midterm 30%
Paper In Lieu Of Final Exam 30%
Class/Precept Participation 10%
Oral Presentation(s) 10%
Paper(s) 20%

Class Attributes:
International Travel Required

Prerequisites and Restrictions:
Fluency in Spanish required (reading and writing).

Other Information:
Course will be taught in Havana as part of the Princeton-in-Cuba semester abroad program.

Schedule:
S01 1:30 pm-4:20 W